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REMARKS

DATA REGISTRY
 FILE: 30-4
 From 7 Nov edition of
 U.S. News & World Report

Now moved by the
 time to raise the cap as next year
 is an election year and the Congress
 won't vote any raises for themselves then.

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Washington Whispers.

Quick Pullout From Grenada . . . Gerald Ford for Mideast Envoy? . . . Ed Meese Nails His Target

The White House immediately started pressing the Pentagon to pull American forces out of Grenada as quickly as possible. Talks with their own pollsters and Capitol Hill lobbyists convinced Reagan's aides that two weeks of occupation by American troops is all they have before they start losing both public and congressional support.

★ ★ ★

There's a new name floating around Washington to take over as Reagan's special envoy to the Middle East. It's that of Gerald Ford, who supporters say managed to get along with both the Arabs and the Israelis when he was President and who would wield badly needed added influence in the prestige-conscious region.

★ ★ ★

A visit by President Reagan to Dover, Del., where bodies of Marines slain in Beirut were being processed, was considered and quickly rejected. Aides concluded that the last thing Reagan will need in his 1984 re-election campaign is circulation of news photographs showing him with the coffins of servicemen.

★ ★ ★

Secret Service agents have concluded that it was a mistake for the President to try telephoning a man who held White House aides at gunpoint while Reagan played golf nearby in Augusta, Ga. They fear it will only encourage others to seize hostages in order to talk to the President and bask in the glow of accompanying publicity.

★ ★ ★

It was Edwin Meese, counselor to the President, who orchestrated Reagan's firing of three holdover members of the Civil Rights Commission. Meese decided, after weeks of fruitless negotiations over replacing the trio with different appointees, that even blistering criticism for the unprecedented action would be preferable to letting the controversy drag on.

Will Lebanon turn into Reagan's Iran? White House political advisers warned the President that he risks the same fate that befell predecessor Jimmy Carter. They foresee public support rallying around Reagan at first after the Marine massacre, but gradually eroding and turning into bitter attacks that could even cost him the Presidency in 1984 unless he moves to get U.S. troops out of danger.

★ ★ ★

Britain's Prime Minister Thatcher wouldn't win any popularity contests among Republicans these days. The President's backers feel she caved in to domestic pressures—and showed ingratitude for American aid during the Falklands War—by refusing to support the U.S. invasion of Grenada.

★ ★ ★

Jesse Jackson's strong attack on Reagan for invading Grenada—and his denouncing of Democratic leaders for not joining him—removed any lingering doubts in the minds of most political analysts that he intended to run for President. What's more, close associates of the civil-rights clergyman already had their spots on his campaign team picked out.

★ ★ ★

Reagan got so caught up in the drama of the invasion of Grenada that he kept track of practically every move in the fighting. Instead of following his normal procedure of letting Secretary of State Shultz and Defense Secretary Weinberger do most of the talking during a briefing for key members of Congress, the President kept interrupting to answer members' questions himself.

★ ★ ★

Visitors to the U.S. Capitol soon will find security tightened. Police were shocked to discover, in a little-publicized October incident, that a man arrested for acting strangely in the House visitors' gallery was carrying a bomb that—had it not malfunctioned—could have destroyed most of the gallery and crowded chamber.

tioned—could have destroyed most of the gallery and crowded chamber.

★ ★ ★

Two hotly debated bills ran out of time in the Senate amid the uproar over Lebanon and Grenada. Republican Majority Leader Howard Baker passed word that it's now too late to deal this year with measures lifting price controls on natural gas and limiting proposed access charges for long-distance telephone calls.

★ ★ ★

Ethel Kennedy received many letters of sympathy after her son Robert was arrested on charges of possessing heroin and entered a hospital for treatment. She told friends that one of the most touching notes came from Nancy Reagan, long a crusader against drug abuse among the young.

★ ★ ★

Agriculture Secretary Block is sending this blunt signal to countries that subsidize their farm goods and undercut American prices: Unless those nations curb such practices, the United States intends to adopt the same tactics and flood markets with a torrent of crops from the world's greatest agricultural producer.

★ ★ ★

Senator Nancy Kassebaum isn't giving up yet on her crusade to cut U.S. contributions to the United Nations. The Kansas Republican's latest complaint: U.N. officials spent 2 million dollars on a 10-day visit to Vienna to discuss world crime.

★ ★ ★

Sliding almost noiselessly through Congress masked by all the troubles breaking out abroad is a bill that would give members of Congress—along with other civilian government employees—a 4 percent pay raise. Approved by the House in late October, the measure increasing lawmakers' salaries to \$72,592 faces little opposition in the Senate.